



**LORI GLASGOW**  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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August 5, 2016

The Honorable Julián Castro  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20410

Dear Secretary Castro:

We are writing to strongly urge that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) support, and not penalize, Continuums of Care that use McKinney-Vento resources to fund high-performing transitional housing programs, as well as rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing programs, dedicated to serving survivors of intimate partner violence.

Los Angeles County is home to the nation's second largest homeless population and its largest unsheltered homeless population. The 2016 Point-in-Time homeless count found that 7,868 (or 18 percent) of the 43,854 homeless individuals in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care have experienced some form of intimate partner violence (IPV) through physical battery, sexual abuse, and/or stalking. Alarming, nearly half of all women who experience homelessness also reported a history of abuse.

We have been proactive in addressing this problem, including, most recently, by directing the creation of a three-year, locally-funded IPV Rapid Re-Housing Pilot Program that seeks to place IPV survivors in rent-subsidized units, while providing them the appropriate wraparound services to address their trauma and ensure their safety. We are hopeful that this pilot program will be proven to be a successful model for meeting the needs of IPV survivors that is worthy of replication elsewhere.

An assortment of housing models is an essential piece of a larger comprehensive homeless services delivery system, especially when serving some of the most vulnerable homeless populations. It is critical that a wide range of flexible housing options are available to IPV survivors. Therefore, HUD should support the use of McKinney-Vento funding by Continuums of Care to finance a full spectrum of programs, such as emergency shelter, bridge housing, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing, for serving IPV survivors.

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We appreciate your continued interest in our initiatives to combat homelessness in the County, and also your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,



HILDA L. SOLIS  
Chair of the Board  
Supervisor, First District



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
Supervisor, Second District



DON KNABE  
Supervisor, Fourth District



SHEILA KUEHL  
Supervisor, Third District



MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Supervisor, Fifth District